



Utah Notification and Information System (UNIS)

What is UNIS?

The Utah Notification and Information System (UNIS) is a secure, web-based communication system designed to facilitate the rapid exchange of information between emergency response agencies throughout the state.

UNIS allows users to receive, send and discuss information of importance in a secure, confidential environment. It also allows for the rapid notification of any and all users in the event of an emergency, when the timely distribution of information is critical.

Users can access the UNIS web site to login, request to join, or begin registration at <http://health.utah.gov/unis>.

UNIS Users

Individuals, groups and agencies involved in emergency response are eligible to become UNIS users. Currently, UNIS registration is open to a variety of state and local agencies, including public health, hospitals, laboratories, physicians and other clinicians, emergency management, law enforcement personnel and other relevant groups.

Main Components of UNIS

Registration / User Profile, Notifications, Document Library, Forums, Directory

1. Registration / User Profile

In order to use UNIS, you must be a registered user. The online registration application gathers information on each user that is used to verify the identity and affiliation of the user for security purposes.

Registration is necessary so that sensitive, confidential information that is posted to the UNIS website is seen only by those for whom the information is intended. Information gathered through the registration form becomes part of the user profile.

The user may update their profile at any time, in order to reflect the most current contact information, or to change their notification preferences.

2. Notifications

When a person registers for UNIS, they are asked to specify various notification preferences. Notifications can be sent via phone (office, cell, home), email (work or alternate), fax, pager (numeric or alphanumeric) or text messaging to cell phones. Once the person becomes a registered user, he or she may change their notification preferences by logging in to the website and updating their user profile.

Notifications that are sent to users are posted to the UNIS website. These notification documents can be accessed at any time following a sent alert. The notification documents have three levels of priority - Alert (urgent attention required), Advisory (moderate attention required) and Update (informational only, no immediate action required).

Documents posted to the website are NOT public information (unless specifically stated), and often contain sensitive or confidential information.

3. Document Library

Each agency has the ability to store documents on the UNIS website. Only users from that agency will have access to those documents.

The document library gives user a central location to access crucial documents, such as the agencies call down list, emergency response plan, etc., when away from the office.

Each agency will designate an administrator who will oversee access to these document library folders.

4. Forums

A forum is a place for UNIS users to have online, ongoing discussions about events or protocols with one another in a secure, private environment. It operates as a "bulletin board" for users to ask questions, share information, or comment on events or notifications posted to the UNIS website.

Forum activity is monitored by the UNIS Administrator for appropriate use.

Users may request a special forum for the discussion of a specific topic by contacting the UNIS administrator at (801) 538-7070.

5. Directory

A directory of all UNIS users is available on the website. All individuals that register have limited information available to the other users.

Having an online directory of all users enables others to get up-to-date information on others. As users update their profile, the updated information is stored in the directory.

Questions?

If you have questions regarding UNIS, or how to become a registered user, please contact your local UNIS coordinator or the UNIS Project Manager, Dean Penovich, at 801-538-7070 or by email at unis@utah.gov.